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DIAGNOSTIC VALUE OF ALLERGIC TESTS
DURING CHRONIC BACTERIAL DYSENTERY

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DIAGNOSTIC VALUE OF ALLERGIC TESTS DURING CHRONIC BACTERIAL DYSENTERY

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Using the allergic Tsuverskalov allergy test, 105 patients afflicted with chronic dysentery and who were under constant care were examined. Of these 70 had a recurrent form and 35 had a continuous form of dysentery. In 24 (22.9%) afflicted with chronic dysentery the diagnosis was confirmed bacteriologically; of these the allergy test was positive in 20 individuals. In 81 of the afflicted the diagnosis was established based on clinical symptoms, epidemiological anamnesis and proctosigmoidoscopy; of these 52 patients (64.2%) had a positive allergic intracutaneous allergy test. However, on the whole, the intracutaneous Tsuverskalov test was positive with varied degree of intensity in 72 of the 105 patients, which is 68.6%.

In order to resolve the problem concerning the time duration during which the Tsuverskalov test remains positive in those suffering with chronic dysentery, this test was repeatedly checked at various periods in 25 individuals. The following results were obtained: in 6 patients the Tsuverskalov test became negative after

being treated for 3 to 6 weeks, in 6 the degree of intensity of the allergy test diminished after treatment, in 12 it remained unchanged and in one it intensified.

Of the individuals who left our clinic with positive intradermal test, 8 remained under our observation for a period of 2 years. Of these, one had a positive allergy test for 4 months, 3-5 months, (2-10 months), one-14 months and one for 16 months. Thus, the maximum period during which the Tsuverskalov test remains positive is 10-16 months after which it becomes negative concomitantly with the disappearance of clinical symptoms.

These data permit one to assert that the intradermal test with Tsuverskalov allergen is sufficiently specific and valuable for diagnosing chronic bacterial dysentery.